

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and system for providing storage area network SAN level boot/installation services for appliances on a SAN. A generic maintenance "bootlv" is mirrored on at least one disk (or set of disks) that are located out on the SAN. The disk(s) are encoded with similar boot functions as a conventional boot CD. The disk(s) provides physical storage for a volume group that has the base install images and all of the optional Programming Product (OPP) images selected by the system administrator to be included in the install volume group. In one embodiment, a volume group made up of several disks is able to boot up and run from any one of the several disks since the bootlv is mirrored/copied on each of the disks.